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September 7, 1990

TO: File

FROM: Anthony A. Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *aa*

RE: Site Visit, Vernal Phosphate Operations, Chevron Chemical, M/047/007, Uintah County, Utah

On August 17, 1990, Holland Shepherd and myself of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining and Dave Plume of the Bureau of Land Management, visited the Chevron mine site. Gene Schamber and Mary Lozano conducted our tour of the operation.

After visiting the engineering office for an overview of the operation we then visited the 'D' Pit which was currently being worked. This pit is near the public highway and requires a road block during blasting because of the flyrock. We visited several areas which Chevron has reclaimed and some revegetation test plots. We viewed the disturbances at Hole In The Wall Canyon and Big Brush Creek, which were done before Chevron acquired the property. Both of these canyons have areas of mine waste piled to the canyon rim, although Chevron's practice is to leave a 200 foot buffer zone between the canyon rim and any waste pile. During our visit, a bulldozer was pushing topsoil up the 2.5:1 slope of the tailings dam and tailings were being run through a cyclone to recover the fines for use in raising the dam.

Photographs were taken at several of the tour stops. The last stop was a visit to Camp Canyon which was last mined by Stauffer in 1980 and reclaimed by Chevron. Lunch was provided at the main office by Chevron.

Reclamation efforts and results achieved by Chevron were impressive. The practice of concurrent reclamation is one reason for their reclamation success. Our visit brought several questions to light regarding the final reclamation of the tailings pond and dam which has an inherent leak problem. A letter was sent to Chevron to document our visit and present our concerns for final reclamation of the tailings impoundment.

jb

MNM047007.2



1/FEEL THOUGHT - CHURCH RESOURCES
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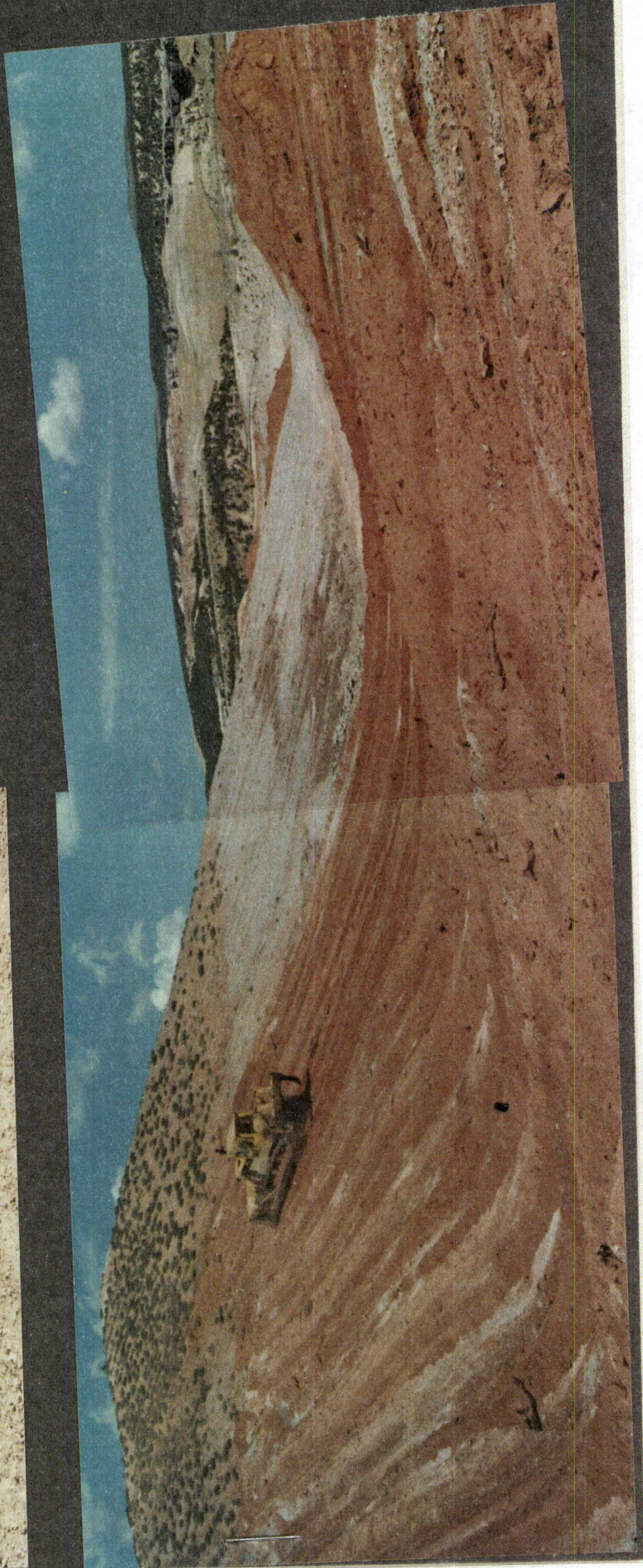
- note construction to raise the tailings
dam on the far right

D'PT - current working area
in upper right of this frame

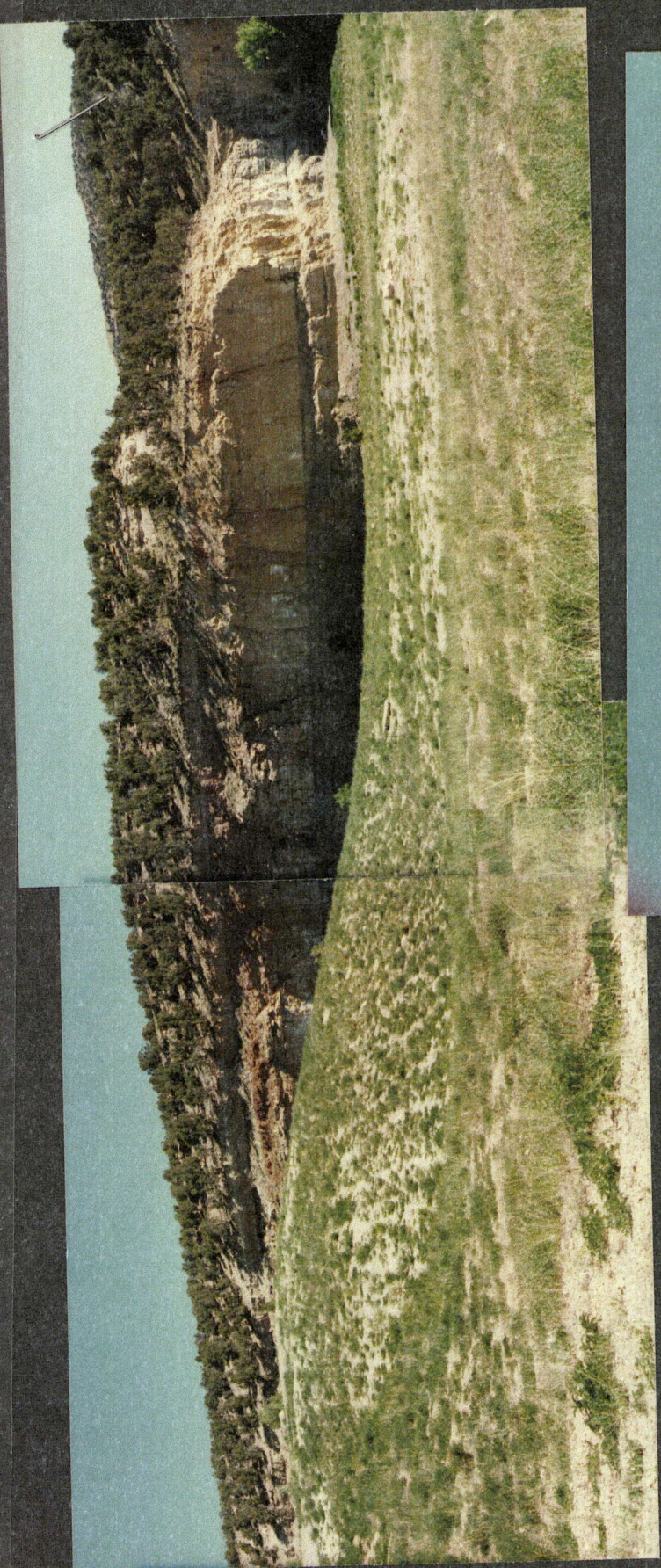
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VERNAL PHOSPHATE
CHEVRON RESOURCES
UINTA COUNTY
RECLAIMED
STRIP PITS



